Yours Church & Yours.
Working under the W.S.S.
April 7, 1935
A. M.

Your Church & You

Heb. 12:28 Wherefore, receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us have grace, whereby we may offer service well-pleasing to God.

Intro. In the letter to the Hebrews, the new covenant in Christ is shown to be infinitely superior to the old covenant. God in Christ is testing the world so that all perishable things shall fall to pieces and only what is true and good and eternal will remain. Therefore upon us who are in Christ rests a solemn sense of responsibility, the highest obligation to seek God's help and to serve Him as He desires, in obedience to His will. Eph.

All Xns today who are trying to live up to their responsibility as such, are working under the direction of the W.S.S. of the Church of Christ.

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I. You and the Worship of your Church.

1. Next Sunday is Holy Communion. We also dedicate the new hymnals. It will be a fitting time to consider the worship of the Church.

II You and the Service of the Church

1.

God is the creator of all things and the Father of all men. In Him all things consist and to Him all belong. In Him man lives and moves and has his being. God purposes man's highest welfare in fellowship with Himself.

God has endowed man with manifold gifts of body and mind. He has entrusted to him the use and control of things and given him dominion over the works of His hands in partnership with Himself.

As steward of all that he is and has, man's use and control of all entrusted to him is for the development of his own character, the betterment of his fellowmen, the service of Christ, and the glory of God.

The true steward constantly and joyfully recognizes and acknowledges his stewardship. As a partner of his Heavenly Father he shares himself and his possessions with all mankind.

III You and the Support of your Church.

1. All churches face serious budget problems just as do all other institutions.

2. During such a period of depression as the present one, the Church's obligations have increased as their incomes have decreased.

3) 3. The minimum budget of the church must seek to conserve those items which are strategic — church attendance, the development of youth, the maintenance of spiritual efficiency and the means to help others; in short, the church should seek to maintain the reasonable life and growth of the Kingdom of God in every community.

Read McCarrah. 1 & 2

4. The Canvas.

a — Plate your canvas wisely. Choose the best time for making it. Fall?

b — Two-year pledges?

5. After the Canvas.

a — Our budget possibilities will not be exhausted when we have completed our canvas.

If the level of our pledge total does not cover the budget, it will not be necessary immediately to cut the budget to the level of the pledge total. God is not dead, and if we are not dead either, there are ways and means open to us. The Ladies Aid & S.S. & B.C. can do much to help out. More than their share perhaps.

4) Why can't other depts of the church devise ways & means of helping.
- a sacrifice offering in the Sunday school
- C.E. food sales
- a trustee & elder entertainment?

b- A follow-up canvas during the year ever seeking further support from new-comers & friends of the church?

Conclusion - Let us lift our Canvas to the level of the W.S.S. standard of Xn living.

Let us realize that Worship & Service and Support are the Trinity of Xn activity which keeps the Church of Jesus Christ a living, active, growing power for good.